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INTRODUCTION.

"It is in the power of man to cause all parasitic diseases to disappear from the world."—*L. Pasteur.*

In this age of rapid printing and in view of the vast and extensive literature daily produced on nearly all subjects in medicine, one should pause and think, and offer good reasons for writing another medical book. Tuberculosis pulmonum is no new disease, and countless are the books and monographs written on its therapeutics. Thus, in offering to the English-speaking medical world, and especially to the medical profession of the United States, to which I have the honor to belong, a new book on the treatment and prevention of pulmonary tuberculosis, I must give weighty reasons for doing so.

First, I may say that I had been encouraged to write this work by a number of my colleagues of the United States and England, who had honored me by reading my French thesis, which procured me the final degree at the faculty of medicine of the University of Paris, in June, 1895. It was entitled "Les Sanatoria: Traitement et Prophylaxie de la Phtisie Pulmonaire." Another encouragement to write down in book form the newer ideas and experiences of what I like to call modern phthisio-therapy I found in the interest which was manifested in my occasional addresses before American medical bodies, and the very kind reception which was accorded to the communications on this subject by the medical press of this country.

But, aside from these encouragements, I felt that there was a need in the United States of spreading the ideas and principles of the modern management of pulmonary tuberculosis—ideas of which I witnessed the best fruits during my stay abroad, especially in Germany and in England.

That the College of Physicians of Philadelphia honored my work with the Alvarenga prize for the year 1898 is, perhaps, the best evidence that I had not been mistaken in thinking that the appearance of a book on the sanitation, hygiene, hospitalization,